

## THE AMERICAN ISTHMUS.

AN ENGLISHMAN ON THE NICARAGUA CANAL.

He Says It Is Feasible, and Should Be Controlled by the United States.

LONDON, October 28.—As cabled to the press last night, the Times today publishes a three-column article on the proposed ship canal to join the Atlantic and Pacific oceans through the republic of Nicaragua. The article is written by A. R. Colquhoun, a correspondent who was specially sent by the Times to Nicaragua about the time the United States Government Commission went to that country in order to report upon the feasibility of the plans of the Maritime Canal Company of Nicaragua and the Nicaraguan Construction Company. In Nicaragua Mr. Colquhoun met the United States Commission, and is understood to have thoroughly studied the plans for the inter-oceanic waterway. He has arrived at the conclusion that the project cannot be carried through as a private enterprise, but that it must be under the auspices of "some strong government, which without doubt, must be the United States." He is convinced, however, that the cost of cutting the suggested waterway will be nearer \$150,000,000 than \$100,000,000.

Continuing, Mr. Colquhoun says: "As regards the political aspect, confidential communications are said to have passed between the British and United States governments, and no objections have been raised. In any case it would seem that, under the Clayton-Bulwer treaty of 1850, any connection between the Atlantic and Pacific by a ship canal through Nicaragua will have to be neutralized in the same way as the Suez canal was in 1888.

"The object of the bill recently passed by the United States Senate is practically clear. It is to acquire control of the canal. This is a matter which concerns not only the United States, but the world at large, more especially Great Britain. But for the obstacles hindering the United States Government itself in undertaking the construction it would have been completed long ago.

"The work is so great, the benefits are so transcendent and the interests involved are so vast and complex that it should be removed from the chances of private enterprise, affected as it would be by stringency or the fluctuations of the money market and by the attitude of the governments of Nicaragua and Costa Rica."

Mr. Colquhoun also inspected the route of the proposed canal through the Isthmus of Panama, and he states that even if it is feasible, not more than one-third of the work has been executed and that it would cost largely over \$200,000,000 to complete it. He regards the Chagres river and the Cul-de-bra cut portions of the Panama canal plan as being insurmountable obstacles to the completion of that undertaking.

The Paris Figaro, commenting upon Venezuelan affairs, says: "The dispute between England and Venezuela is worth watching on account of the proximity of the British and American fleets. Prudence recommends that they be not left too long together, for the intense hatred of Americans toward the old country is appalling."

"I was sorry, Willie," said his Sunday-school teacher, "to see you keep your seat when the superintendent asked those who wanted to go to heaven to rise. Don't you want to go to heaven?"

"Yes'm."

"Then why don't you rise?"

"Cos he didn't have no right to tell me to rise, ma'm," answered Willie. "He ain't no Ang-I Gabriel."—Pittsburg Bulletin.

Winks—What makes you look so blue?

Jinks—I have six daughters, none of them married, or likely to be.

Winks—And you are blue over it? I have six daughters, all married, all have children, and I have to support the whole crowd.—New York Weekly.

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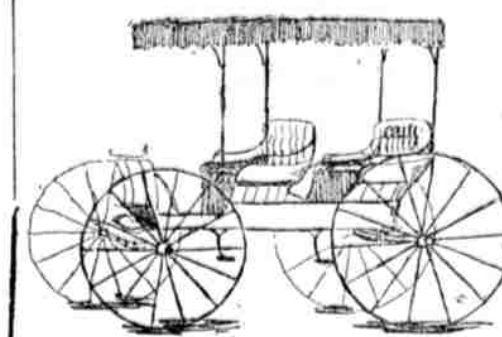
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